



news release

Date **May 17, 1991**

No. 119

For release

CANADA APPOINTS **AMBASSADOR FOR FISHERIES CONSERVATION**

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, the Honourable John C. Crosbie, today announced the appointment of Randolph Gherson as Ambassador for Fisheries Conservation, with responsibility for co-ordinating Canadian government efforts to end foreign overfishing in the northwest Atlantic. He will report directly to Minister Crosbie and Minister McDougall.

"Ambassador Gherson will lead Canada's efforts to press the European Community (EC) to fully comply with the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization's (NAFO) fisheries management decisions. He will also urge non-NAFO countries to cease fishing in the fragile northwest Atlantic zone," stated Mrs. McDougall.

In co-operation with provincial governments and industry representatives, Ambassador Gherson will carry forward Canada's diplomatic, legal and information initiatives to ensure conservation of marine resources on the high seas, especially those stocks found in Canadian waters and adjacent waters outside the 200-mile limit.

"Ambassador Gherson has demonstrated effectiveness and dedication in advancing Canada's interests through a distinguished diplomatic career. His experience as our Chief Air Negotiator and his strong background in European and Canada-EC relations will prove invaluable in his new assignment," said Mr. Crosbie. "He is undertaking a difficult task that will require the full co-operation and support of those involved in the Atlantic fishery."

Ministers Crosbie and McDougall expressed their sincere appreciation for the commitment and exceptional skill with which Ambassador J. Alan Beesley has discharged his duties since his appointment as Ambassador for Marine Conservation in 1989.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES
AMBASSADOR RANDOLPH GHERSON

Ambassador Randolph Gherson graduated with honours in Economics and International Relations at the London School of Economics, was awarded the Certificate of the Academy of International Law, The Hague in 1949, and undertook post-graduate work at the University of London, 1950-1953. He joined the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa in 1958. He served as Deputy Head of Mission at the Canadian Mission to the European Economic Communities (EEC) in Brussels from 1968 to 1972 and Acting Head of Mission, 1970-1971; as Minister-Counsellor (Economic) at the Embassy in Washington from 1972 to 1976; as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris from 1980 to 1983; and as Director General, European Summit Countries and European Community Bureau, Department of External Affairs from 1983 to 1986. Mr. Gherson served as Chief Air Negotiator for Canada since 1986. He was appointed Canadian Ambassador for Fisheries Conservation on May 17, 1991.